

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing Senator Anita Bowser for her many years of outstanding service to the citizens of Indiana and her community in north central Indiana.

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_____, read first time and referred to Committee on _____



Introduced

First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing Senator Anita Bowser for her many years of outstanding service to the citizens of Indiana and her community in north central Indiana.

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was born August 18, 1920, and passed away on March 4, 2007, at the age 86;

Whereas, The daughter of Nicholas and Emilie Albu, Senator Anita Bowser was born in Canton, Ohio;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser, formerly Anita Albu, married Russell Bowser and began her fruitful life in Northern Indiana;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was an accomplished scholar, receiving a bachelor's degree from Kent State University, a law degree from McKinley School of Law, a master's degree from Purdue University and a master's degree from the University of Notre Dame;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was a pioneer for women in education, becoming the first female professor at Purdue University in the 1950's when few women held such positions, and was named Outstanding Professor in 1969, teaching political science and constitutional law;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was first elected to the

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Indiana House of Representatives in 1980 and held the position of Deputy Speaker Pro Tempore, enabling her to become the first woman to act as House Speaker in the history of the State;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was elected to the Indiana State Senate in 1992, where she served as the ranking Democrat on the Pensions and Labor Committee and also served on the Judiciary; Corrections, Criminal & Civil Matters; Ethics; and Education and Career Development Committees;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was appointed to the Child Custody and Support Advisory and the Sentencing Policy Study Committees;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was a member of the National Democratic Platform Committee and the LaPorte County League of Women;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser received the Louis Ingelhart Award for Freedom of Expression, the Amnesty International Abolitionist of the Year Award, and the Robert Dale Owen Legislator Award from the Indiana Civil Liberties Union;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was the legislator's foremost constitutional scholar and was often called the "conscience of the Indiana State Senate";

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser in her first legislative session opposed a requirement that public school text books "teach high moral standards" on the grounds that such language could ban such classics as Huckleberry Finn, standing up for unpopular, but just causes from the very beginning of her tenure as a legislator;

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser authored successful legislation that prohibits the imposition of the death penalty of mentally handicapped individuals and individuals less than eighteen years of age;



Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser was a staunch defender of the under represented and unprotected, she fought for civil liberties, women's rights, and the rights of all Hoosiers; and

Whereas, Senator Anita Bowser sometimes faced criticism from those who disagreed with her concepts of government, she always kept hold of her principles by maintaining morality and a sense of higher purpose in her personal life; Therefore

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Indiana General Assembly honors the invaluable
- 2 lifetime service and achievements of State Senator Anita Bowser.
- 3 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives
- 4 is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to her nephews Thomas Albu
- 5 and James Albu, her niece Emily Albu, her Carl Albu, the University of
- 6 Purdue-North Central, Baker Woods Enrichment Center, and the LaPorte
- 7 County Democratic Party.

